

her employer for discrimination when she finally learned that her male colleagues had been paid more than her for several years. Justice Ginsburg's dissent in this case became the basis for the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which we passed in 2009, making it possible to bring lawsuits when gender-based pay discrimination is actually uncovered.

As a testament to the legal giant she was, Justice Ginsburg's accomplishments on behalf of women are just one part of her legacy, and that legacy I strongly believe is going to be honored more and more in the years to come. She died last Friday, just 46 days before the 2020 Presidential election.

Importantly, under a Republican standard adopted in 2016, the Senate should not consider a Supreme Court nomination until after the inauguration of the next President, whoever that may be. Until recently, Republicans have been intent on their own standard, which they used to block consideration of Merrick Garland, President Obama's nominee, to fill Justice Scalia's seat on the Court. Now, can we have one set of rules for Democratic Presidents and another for Republican ones? I think not. To allow otherwise undermines not only our faith in Congress but also the faith of people that we are going to stick by what we do and be impartial in the judicial system. Now, just 41 days before the election, Senate Republicans must abide by their own standard.

What is at stake? There is a great deal of attention this week as to whom the President might select. The simple truth, however, is this: No matter whom President Trump nominates, fundamental rights and protections must be considered because they become at risk if the nominee doesn't respond positively and effectively to these.

For example, in November, the Court will hear a renewed legal challenge—brought by the Trump administration—to the Affordable Care Act. Given President Trump's promise to appoint a Justice who would strike down the Affordable Care Act, healthcare access and protections for the nearly 130 million nonelderly Americans with pre-existing conditions are really in certain peril, and we have every reason for serious consideration and opposition if this protection is not continued.

It is unbelievable that during a pandemic that has already killed more than 200,000 Americans, this President and his allies are rushing a nomination that could leave up to 30 million Americans without healthcare. I hope that doesn't happen.

The next Justice will also decide cases concerning women's reproductive rights, voting rights, access to justice, environmental protections, the rights of LGBT Americans, and the rights of American workers. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg was a champion for all these rights and protections. She is very hard to replace, and it is important to

think of those rights that need continued protection when the replacement is made by the President.

We cannot allow the Senate and the President to jam through a nominee who will undo this legacy, which is so important to every American because every American has that legacy today, firm, and uses it virtually every day of their life.

We are ready to fight, and we will do everything in our power to safeguard these hard-won rights and protections. It is really important. Of all the nominations I have sat as a fairly long-term member—since 1993—of the Judiciary Committee, these protections and rights are really all important and must be protected. They will be what we are looking at when the nominee comes to the Senate.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

BILLION DOLLAR BOONDOGGLE ACT

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I grew up on a family farm with modest means. As a young girl, I saw Washington, DC, as a place for men in big fancy suits and big fancy houses. While a lot has changed since that time—for one, there are a lot more women like me serving in the Senate—so much here is still the same.

You see, too many folks in Washington get their paychecks from American taxpayers but don't honor the folks who pay their salary. Instead of holding bad actors accountable, whether it is reckless spending or raunchy behavior on taxpayers' time, it gets swept under the rug.

Let me give you an example. I have a bill right now. It is called the Billion Dollar Boondoggle Act. It passed committee unanimously. It is actually one of the simplest bills I have ever introduced. It literally requires the government to report on projects that are, No. 1, behind schedule and, No. 2, over-budget. It is a simple reporting requirement. Again, it passed through the committee unanimously.

The bill has the support of my Republican colleagues, but I am being stonewalled by my friends across the aisle. Folks, I cannot fathom why some Senate Democrats would oppose a reporting requirement to identify wasteful spending.

You might ask: If this bill is so simple, why does it mean so much to you? Because it matters to my fellow Iowa taxpayers. They expect Washington to use their tax dollars wisely, not throw them down bottomless sinkholes that go unnoticed. Ask any small business owner in Iowa whether the bottom line allows them to be over-budget or behind schedule. They would be out of business. They would be out of business in a heartbeat. Yet we can't even pass a bill to report on these cost overruns, much less address them. I guess it is perfectly fine for Washington to take more and more from working families and small businesses.

Folks, I think it is downright shameful that we just can't pass this simple

bill. I will remind you again, it passed unanimously through committee.

While there is a heck of a lot of political posturing that goes on in the Senate, we have had moments when we have come together to rein in the ticker tape parade of Washington's excesses. For instance, we passed my SQUEAL Act, which was signed into law as part of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. I am proud of that effort because there is no reason Members of Congress should enjoy tax perks that don't get enjoyed by everyone else.

My bipartisan Program Management Improvement and Accountability Act was signed into law, creating more efficiency and oversight in the Federal Government.

I certainly have not stopped fighting to rein in Presidential perks.

I have also worked with colleagues who couldn't be more different from me politically, and we have actually accomplished really important things for the American people. I will name a few of those. We have fought against abuse in the Olympics. We have worked to stop prison rape. We have expanded telehealth and mental health services for our veterans. We have fought against opioids in our communities, and so much more.

Working across the aisle really does take humility. It takes honesty, and it takes a firm belief in America and her people. But we can do this. I would urge all of my colleagues to support my bill and move it through the Senate.

Living in Iowa, I am so blessed to be around the best people America has to offer. I am lucky not just to call these people farmers but also friends and neighbors. Iowans are strong. Iowans are resilient. And Iowans are brave. I have long said we need more of Iowa in Washington. I will keep fighting to make sure that happens.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROMNEY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING JUSTICE RUTH BADER GINSBURG

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, a 5-foot-1-inch giant, Ruth Bader Ginsburg changed this Nation—and the potential of my own life—time and again, seeing no challenge too big and finding no cause too small to fight for. A woman with the softest voice, yet the most powerful words one could ever imagine, she made it her life's work to lift up the voices of others who all too often had been silenced or ignored.

With every case she argued, with every ruling she issued, with every dissent she penned, Justice Ginsburg helped push our country toward that more perfect Union our Founders once